



Jennifer Nicholson

Walla Walla Public Schools Classroom Close-Up



TEACHER NAME: Jennifer Nicholson

SCHOOL: Edison Elementary

Position: Library Media-Specialist

YEARS IN DISTRICT: 1 year

Q. What lesson are you leading students through during today's visit?

A. I've been working with our first graders on the difference between fiction and non-fiction. We're doing an activity on orcas. We'll also be talking about alphabetical order by using different sea creatures. This will help students learn how to find books in the library using A, B, C order. It's a fun way to help them learn this skill.

Q. What are some of the teaching strategies you will be using with this lesson?

A. We'll be using pictures of actual orcas. I will ask them what they know about orcas. It helps them begin sharing about the orcas. I will be using the Smart Board to have the students study the parts of the orca. I will then bring in non-fiction books to further the discussion.

Q. Why is it important to find a student's passion to help them learn?

A. It's the greatest feeling when you have a student who is a reluctant reader and you find something that catches them. Four weeks later they're reading chapter books, they're improving their skills and seeking out books to reading. Reading is just like anything else, it takes practice to get better.

COMMENTS FROM EDISON PRINCIPAL NANCY WITHYCOMBE:

"Jennifer was a surprise candidate for us when we were hiring a new librarian for Edison. She has National Board Certification and comes with good experience and a great attitude. She has worked to get our small library even better organized. She uses technology when presenting lessons to students of all ages. She's helping with reading groups as well as tending to regular library responsibilities. Coming from Florida, she'd never seen snow. After buying a home up Mill Creek, she's no longer a rookie driving on slippery roads. Edison is very happy that she chose to join our staff."

Over



MOMENTS & MEMORIES FROM
JENNIFER NICHOLSON'S CLASS:



COMMENTS FROM JENNIFER...

We have a lot of technology in school libraries and we teach the students how to use it. Students use our Smart Board to enhance their learning. These skills also help students learn how to find the information they are looking for and need.

It's important to get to know what the students like to do. So when a new book comes in I can say: Oh by the way, this book came in and I think you'll really like it.



Last year I was teaching at a middle school in Florida with 1,200 students. I just love Edison. I get to know the parents and have more time to work with staff and students.